

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 051278
ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13
/067 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RCASTRODALE:JJ
APPROVED BY AF/E:RSPOST
H:HROBINSON (PHONE)
-----090647Z 079017 /13
R 082142Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 051278

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ZA, US

SUBJECT: U.S. SPOKESMAN ADMITS AMERICAN MERCENARIES IN
RHODESIA

1. FOLLOWING APPEARED IN FBIS NO. 38 MARCH 7 DATE LINED
LUSAKA:

"AN AMERICAN EMBASSY SPOKESMAN ADMITTED IN LUSAKA TODAY
THAT THERE ARE SOME AMERICAN CITIZENS FIGHTING AS MERCEN-
ARIES IN REBEL RHODESIA AGAINST FREEDOM-FIGHTERS. COMMENT-
ING ON A CUBAN NEWS AGENCY REPORT THAT MORE THAN 400
AMERICANS ARE AMONG 1,200 MERCENARIES FIGHTING FOR THE
REBEL RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT, THE AMERICAN EMBASSY SPOKES-
MAN SAID THERE ARE AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO HAVE CHOSEN TO
FIGHT ON BEHALF OF THE RHODESIAN WHITES.

"IN AN INTERVIEW WITH ZANA (ZAMBIA NEWS AGENCY--FBIS),
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 051278

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HAS NOT DENIED
THIS FACT BECAUSE THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT SOME AMERICAN
CITIZENS ARE FIGHTING ON BEHALF OF RHODESIAN WHITES.
ASKED WHAT STEPS THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IS TAKING TO STOP
THE RECRUITMENT OF MERCENARIES IN THE COUNTRY THE SPOKESMAN
SAID THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT WAS WORKING ON A LEGISLATIVE
MEASURE WHICH WOULD MAKE IT A CRIME FOR AMERICANS TO SIGN

AS MERCENARIES. THIS WILL SOON BE PRESENTED TO CONGRESS
FOR CONSIDERATION AND WHEN IT HAS BEEN APPROVED AS LAW
ANY AMERICAN CITIZEN WHO SIGNS AS A MERCENARY WILL BE
PROSECUTED. "

2. DEPARTMENT HAS NO INFORMATION THAT SUCH LEGISLATION
IS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION. WOULD APPRECIATE
EMBASSY'S COMMENTS.
VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, MERCENARIES, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE051278
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RCASTRODALE:JJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770080-0660
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770381/aaaacthr.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 551dfebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3173232
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. SPOKESMAN ADMITS AMERICAN MERCENARIES IN RHODESIA
TAGS: PFOR, ZA, US, RH
To: LUSAKA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/551dfebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009